

ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE
SCHOOL COMMITTEE,
AND OF THE
Receipts and Expenditures,
OF THE
TOWN OF PALMER,

For the Year ending March 3, 1868.

SPRINGFIELD, MASS.:
PRESS OF THE UNION PRINTING COMPANY.
1868.

ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE
SCHOOL COMMITTEE,
AND OF THE
Receipts and Expenditures,
OF THE
TOWN OF PALMER,
For the Year ending March 3, 1868.

SPRINGFIELD, MASS.:
PRESS OF THE UNION PRINTING COMPANY.
1868.

SCHOOL REPORT.

THE School Committee of the town of Palmer respectfully submit the subjoined report of public schools for the year ending March 14th, 1868.

We call special attention to that part of the report which recommends a change in our school system.

The schools have been better governed, and, through the year, have been superior, in every respect, to the schools of the preceding year.

One reason for this improvement is, that in most instances the same teachers have been employed through the year: and some of them had taught in the same districts the year before.

There are many reasons for retaining a good teacher several consecutive terms, or even years, in the same school. By this method teachers know exactly who they have to deal with, how far the pupils have understandingly advanced, and what they can do. They are therefore not obliged to spend a third part of the term in finding out their capacity, or in studying the best modes of discipline for particular cases. Another reason for this general improvement is that parents have taken a more direct interest in them than heretofore. Our people are partaking more of the spirit of the best New England educators in this matter. They have believed and acted upon the faith that the work of public instruction is really the process of forming the minds and moulding the lives and destinies of generations.

Certainly it is a work of immeasurable importance, one of the greatest undertakings with which communities are charged. It demands the co-operation of all concerned for its successful prosecution. We are happy to believe that their responsibilities are becoming better understood by those who are naturally the friends of common school education. Still we believe there is vast opportunity for improvement in this particular. It has been observed that "four elements are necessary to constitute a good school, to wit: a good school-room, intelligent scholars, a good teacher and interested parents." Parents *should* be interested in our schools — *their schools* they may be properly called; for of all our public institutions this stands the nearest to the family. Indeed, the school, in many respects, is but the enlargement of the home-circle, and another form of home-discipline. The habits and phrases, the secular and religious opinions of the family, are all carried there, and, as at home, if right, are fostered; if wrong, corrected. Therefore parents should sympathize with teachers, and co-operate with both teachers and committees. If driven to either alternative, it would be far better to dispense with the *official duties* of the committees than the directly *responsible co-operation* of parents.

Male teachers have been employed in the graded departments of Districts Nos. 3 and 12 during the winter terms. These schools have been far more satisfactory to the committee, and, we trust, to the inhabitants generally, than the same schools in some former years. Without speaking disparagingly of former teachers in this department, or uttering one word against female teachers in this higher grade of schools, we think there was a demand for the presence of *a man*. We can speak favorably of all the schools of this class. Mr. Porter, from Amherst college, who taught in District No. 3, was an experienced teacher, and was thoroughly acceptable in his method of discipline and instruction. His school was worthy of this public commend-

ation. Mr. Wilson, also from Amherst college, had less experience, but gave quite as good satisfaction. Miss Nelson, who taught in the 3d district through the year, has our unqualified approbation, and Miss Morse, in the 10th district, although having a difficult class of scholars, did all that could be reasonably expected of her. We should be glad to speak of other teachers in terms of special commendation, was it deemed necessary. We will say for their encouragement, and the assurance of the people in the districts where they have taught, that the attendance, discipline and deportment have been in advance of former years: and in consideration of the elements with which they have been surrounded, and the obstacles they have encountered, are more than we had a right to expect.

Your committee do not feel justified in closing this part of their report without calling your attention to a great fault of all our schools. During the past year it seems to us that *tardiness* has prevailed to an extent which amounts almost to an epidemic — a fault for which teachers are not generally to blame, and, in most cases, scholars are not. Parents are. They send their children to school after their "chores" are done—just the same as some of them would go to the village to lounge, or to hear "the news," but not as they would go to take the cars. Now "school-time" in the child's case is like "car-time" in yours. Our advice is, wash your children's faces early, and at the suitable hour *permit* them to join the living train of child-humanity at the school-house, their depot of knowledge. It cannot be that parents or scholars comprehend the real nature of this fault. The whole school suffers by it; it interferes with studies and the good order of the school. Oftentimes the scholar is as many recitations behind the rest of the school as he or she is times tardy. The evil is not in the little time taken from a day, but in the course of a child's school life, months are filched from years. Nor is it a matter which applies to school business alone; it helps to

fix a bad habit, which will affect all relations of life, and the character itself. If it could be remedied, money thus wasted could be placed to the credit of good discipline at school, regular habits at home, and insure promptness for an enlarged sphere of usefulness.

Our school books have been kept intact, minus the number furnished poor families, in accordance with the statute made and provided in such cases.

Once more your committee have the temerity to suggest a change in our school system. We asked you in our last report to consider the propriety of abolishing the district system altogether. But you had the goodness to dismiss the request without a moment's consideration, and declined to hear us on the subject. We thought then, as you would not allow us to discuss the question, that it was a confession to the weakness of any argument which might be presented in favor of the existing system.

We beg leave to present the following reasons in favor of the *town system*, and commend them to the deliberate judgment of the people of the town.

1st. Wherever the town system has been tried, in almost every instance, it is held in general favor. In looking over a vast number of reports from town committees, abstracts of which are published in the annual report of the board of education, we find it regarded as an improvement, facilitating and simplifying the management of schools, enlarging their usefulness and multiplying incentives to study. They speak of it as "the dawn to a brighter day," "the removal of a great hindrance to sound educational projects," &c. Evidently the State has had this design in view when enacting laws regulating school matters, and fixing a time for all the towns in the Commonwealth to abolish the districts, or forfeit a large part of their shares in the school fund.

2d. In the town system, we should have the best unit of organization and concentration of interest. Now, our

districts are little democracies, and in the worst sense of the term. We seem to be interested only in sections, and are constantly jealous lest some other section or district will be more highly favored than our own. Let the schools in town be made one, and the school-houses be considered only separate apartments, equally well furnished, having common claims upon all the inhabitants of the town; and thus, and only thus, do we become a unit of organization for educational purposes.

3d. This system will simplify the machinery of school government. Now, you have a number of prudential committee men, equal to the whole number of districts, who are chosen by from three to ten votes, according to "their terms," to act an almost irresponsible part. They are usually busy, practical men, who do not desire the honor, and do not want to be bothered with the annoyance. They contract with persons, whom they cannot say shall be teachers, oftentimes their own personal friends, without regard to qualifications, and of which they are not to be the judges. This practice almost invariably makes a change of teachers at least once a year—a policy which, by all means, if possible, should be avoided. We believe that the matter of selecting teachers, and of fixing their wages, with the charge of school-houses and their equipment, should be entrusted to the school committee. The district system embarrasses and complicates the whole business of school management, and is an insurmountable obstacle to retaining even good teachers more than one year. And this has been thought by some of the best educators in the land, a sufficient reason for abolishing the system.

4th. The town system is the best on the score of economy and justice. In three districts in town the largest average attendance of scholars is 30. It costs \$431.46 to maintain these three schools one year, an average of more than \$14 for each scholar: and to school all of them, a little more than *one-seventh* of all the money you raise for

schools. But these thirty scholars are not *one-thirty-sixth* part of the number who attend school. At Thorndike, Three Rivers, Bondville and Palmer Depot we are not allowed over \$3 per scholar: in some of these small districts it costs from \$15 to \$19 per scholar. We ask the voters of the town and the tax-payers if this is *just*, in view of all the existing or contingent circumstances, pertaining to, or that may arise affecting these districts? Is it *right*, since every one of these scholars may be better accommodated, because they could have larger schools, and not too large, without the inconvenience of more than twenty minutes' extra walk; and by availing themselves of these better privileges, about \$450 are saved from the present assessment of the town to its school fund.

Finally, we say it is better for the scholars now in these small schools to be placed in larger ones. This should be done whenever it is possible. When the town system shall have been established, the same amount of money you now raise will be, for the present, at least, ample for school purposes. But refuse to abolish the old system, and \$500 will be required, in addition to your present school tax, to carry on the schools according to law.

This is the last opportunity we shall have, in regular town meeting, to act upon the matter, and establish the new order of things, before the statute will take effect, declaring the forfeiture of a large part of our share in the school fund, in consequence of neglecting to abolish the old system.

WILLIAM HOLBROOK,	} <i>School</i>
E. M. HAYNES,	
GAMALIEL COLLINS,	
	} <i>Committee.</i>

STATISTICS OF THE SCHOOLS.

NO. 1.—SUMMER TERM.

No.	DISTRICTS.	TEACHERS.	Wages	Time in Mos.	Whole No. Schol.	Av. No
1	Old Center,	Helen King,	\$20	3	48	38
2	Three Rivers Primary,	Abbie S. Stebbins,	28	3	45	34
	“ “ Graded,	Sara Nelson,	32	3	23	20
3	Depot Primary,	Fannie P. Taft,	24	3	55	40
	“ Intermediate,	Addie Squier,	30	3	45	37
	“ Graded,	Addie C. Keep,	34	3	32	26
	“ Blanchardville,	Rosie E. King,	30	3	27	21
4	Mason,	Lizzie McElwaine,	24	2½	14	12
5	Foster,	Lucy A. Hastings,	25	2½	22	21
6	Burleigh.	Julia A. Burleigh,	24	3	12	10
7	Shaw,	Jennie L. Lamberton	20	2½	8	6
9	Gamwell,	Mary A. Hancock,	20	2½	9	6
10	Bond's Village,	Sarah Sedgwick,	28	3	75	60
10	“ “	F. A. Morse,	30	3	46	38
11	Hastings,	Helen J. Hitchcock,	18	2½	9	8
12	Thorndike Primary,	Loraine S. Atwood,	28	3	64	50
	“ Graded,	Emma Breard,	30	3	47	39

NO. 2.—FALL TERM.

No.	DISTRICTS.	TEACHERS.	Wages	Time in Mos.	Whole No. Schol.	Av. No
1	Old Center,	Helen King,	20	2	44	30
4	Mason,	Susie E. Dunbar,	24	1½	13	11
5	Foster,	Lucy A. Hastings,	30	2	22	21
6	Burleigh,	Marcia J. Burleigh,	24	1½	11	9
9	Gamwell,	Ellen S. Braman,	20	2½	9	5

NO. 2.—FALL TERM.—CONTINUED.

No.	DISTRICTS.	TEACHERS.	Wages	Time in Mos.	Whole No. Schol.	Av. No
10	Bond's Village,	Sarah Sedgwick,	28	2	65	50
	“ “	F. A. Morse,	30	2	40	33
11	Hastings,	Helen J. Hitchcock,	18	2	10	9
12	Thorndike Primary,	Loraine S. Atwood,	23	3	53	40
	“ Graded,	M. Emma Breard,	30	3	43	34

NO. 3.—WINTER TERM.

No.	DISTRICTS.	TEACHERS.	Wages	Time in Mos.	Whole No. Schol.	Av. No.
1	Old Center,	Helen King,	24	2½	43	38
2	Three Rivers Primary,	Loraine S. Atwood,	32	3½	45	36
	“ “ Graded,	Sara Nelson,	34	3	32	26
3	Depot Primary,	Fannie P. Taft,	26	2	52	43
	“ Intermediate,	Esther E. Gilmore,	30	2½	30	41
	“ Graded,	Dwight D. Porter,	75	2½	46	41
	“ Blanchardville,	Addie Squier,	30	2½	32	30
4	Mason,	Susie E. Dunbar,	24	3½	16	15
5	Foster,	Lucy A. Hastings,	32	2½	23	22
7	Shaw,	Jennie L. Lamberton	20	2	5	4
10	Bond's Village,	Sarah Sedgwick,	35	3	80	60
	“ “	F. A. Morse,	45	3	66	57
11	Hastings,	Helen J. Hitchcock,	20	1½	9	8
12	Thorndike Primary,	Lizzie McElwaine,	28	3	67	47
	“ Intermediate,	Emma Breard,	30	3	48	39
	“ Graded,	Claude Wilson,	50	3	39	30

Number of Scholars, and Division of School Money,
FOR 1867-68.

School District.	No. of Scholars.	Divided by Assessors, \$2500.	State School Fund, \$239.55; Merrick F'd, \$55.00.	For Graded Schools, \$600.	By Com. for Small Dist.s, \$400.	TOTAL.
No. 1	45	\$156 47	\$16 48		\$15 00	\$188 95
No. 2	74	257 30	62 28	\$150 00		469 58
No. 3	185	643 25	72 52	150 00		865 77
No. 4	21	73 04	11 46		62 50	147 00
No. 5	18	62 59	14 47		80 00	157 06
No. 6	14	48 68	11 46		62 50	122 64
No. 7	10	34 77	4 58		37 50	76 85
No. 8	6	20 86	4 58			25 44
No. 9	10	34 77	8 47		62 50	105 74
No. 10	124	431 15	62 20	150 00		643 35
No. 11	9	31 29	8 47		80 00	119 76
No. 12	203	705 83	47 58	150 00		903 41
Total,	719	\$2500 00	\$324 55	\$600 00	\$400 00	\$3824 55

TREASURER'S REPORT

OF THE RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR
ENDING MARCH 3, 1868.

RECEIPTS.

Balance in the Treasury, March 1st, 1867,	\$7,350 21
Received of O. P. Allen, liquor agent,	89 22
City of Springfield, support of pauper,	4 00
R. S. Hastings, collector, 1865,	7 94
D. B. Bishop, collector, 1866,	160 66
Enos Calkins, licenses,	73 00
Shem Loomis, borrowed,	1,500 00
Merrick fund, (interest,)	54 99
Town of Dartmouth, support pauper,	17 27
County Treasurer, new roads,	1,500 00
Town of Brimfield, on ac't of bridges,	483 16
Reuben Rogers, borrowed,	1,400 00
State Treas., for State aid,	1,200 00
Corporation tax,	100 33
E. Calkins, plank sold,	1 00
State Treas., school fund,	269 74
R. S. Hastings, collector, 1867,	25,943 91
	<hr/> \$40,155 43

EXPENDITURES.

Paid for support of schools,	\$3,970 50
“ paupers,	422 19
Repairing highways,	2,293 92
Interest on notes,	1,341 35
Bridges,	2,616 94
New roads,	1,628 65
State aid,	1,365 47
Reducing town debt,	2,958 19
Contingencies,	4,960 25
State tax,	7,150 00
County tax,	1,740 05
	<hr/> \$30,447 41

Balance in the Treasury,	\$9,708 02
--------------------------	------------

Respectfully submitted,

L. DIMOCK, *Treasurer.*

SELECTMEN'S REPORT

EXPENDITURES FOR SCHOOLS.

	Paid out.	Overdrawn.	Due the District
District No. 1,	\$186 42		\$10 23
" 2,	495 97	\$32 64	
" 3,	870 95	5 18	
" 4,	148 00		19 23
" 5,	144 00		22 94
" 6,	114 00		12 42
" 7,	40 00		36 85
" 8,	4 50		20 94
" 9,	103 50		22 44
" 10,	574 50		168 56
" 11,	140 05	2 24	
" 12,	807 22		152 41
	<hr/> \$3,629 11	<hr/> \$40 06	<hr/> \$466 02
		Less,	40 06
			<hr/> \$425 96

PAUPERS.

Paid Emery Pierce,	\$122 25
Wm. R. Dimock,	25 50
Wm. Holbrook, for 1866, medical,	80 00
Erastus Keith,	28 00
Amasa Davis,	8 00
Town of Leverett,	95 50
J. S. Loomis,	32 00
Town of Chicopee,	24 00
Town of Belchertown,	6 94
Ebenezer Brown,	12 30
	<hr/> \$434 49

HIGHWAYS.

Paid C. F. Smith,	\$7 50
Alvin Hastings,	82 75
J. D. Sawyer,	5 00
Wilson Brainard,	9 50
Freeman Dodge,	23 50
R. S. Hastings,	13 00
Eli Smith,	39 85
Asa M. Morse,	82 00
Horace Smith,	36 50
Ephraim Fenton,	15 00
John K. Walker,	674 83
Geo. Mooers,	600 00
Enos Calkins,	150 00
R. B. Caswell,	5 00
J. O. Hamilton,	122 00
E. L. Paul,	27 75
Hall J. Kelley,	8 90
Keyes Foster,	27 00
L. M. Blodget,	75 70
Josiah Gates,	16 50
Adolphus Whipple,	50 00
Shem Loomis,	17 00
J. S. Loomis,	17 00
Wm. Rowen,	11 20
Looman Brown,	17 50
E. B. Gates,	71 45
Jonathan McElwain,	10 00
J. K. Knox,	28 00
	<hr/>
	\$2,244 43

BRIDGES.

Paid Geo. W. Randall, labor,	\$138 72
P. P. Potter, lumber,	315 00
E. B. Gates, lumber,	154 81
T. V. Kent, labor,	23 80
D. L. Harris & Co., iron bridge,	1,270 00
Horace Stowell, labor,	10 00
Alvin Hastings, "	16 00
John R. Welman, "	19 50
L. M. Blodget, "	30 75
Geo. Mooers, team work and labor,	322 00
Isaac Angelier, labor,	72 60
	<hr/>
Amount carried forward,	\$2,373 18

Amount brought forward,	\$2,373 18
Paid Daniel Cook, labor,	85 23
Wilson Lamb, "	72 60
R. S. Hastings, "	60 00
Squier & Wood, castings,	1 98
Chas. D. Foster, team work,	18 00
John Barber, iron work,	8 11
B. B. Page, " "	17 67
C. W. Hastings, lumber,	6 42
P. P. & T. D. Potter, for lumber,	77 11
	<hr/>
	\$2,720 30

NEW ROADS.

Paid Pliny Cooley,	\$63 65
Gilbert F. Lincoln,	1,565 00
Blanchard & Thompson,	23 59
	<hr/>
	\$1,652 24

CONTINGENCIES.

Paid Lyman Dimock, for 1866,	\$77 45
Robert McMaster,	5 82
John E. Crane, for 1866,	93 90
Geo. Mooers, "	114 25
Erastus Keith, "	300 00
" " cash paid out,	24 24
Francis E. Cook, abatement taxes,	7 60
Austin R. Smith, services, "	3 00
Enos Calkins, for 1866,	211 08
David Knox,	55 30
Lyman Dimock, services for 1866,	150 00
Rev. E. M. Haynes, " "	85 00
Gamaliel Collins, " "	75 00
Geo. D. Keith,	2 00
Edward Ashworth,	2 18
R. S. Hastings, abatement taxes,	60 24
Wm. Holbrook, services for 1866,	85 00
Sam'l Bowles & Co.,	4 00
Union Printing Co.,	30 00
D. B. Bishop, services,	76 50
James Gamwell, services,	73 50
John Clough, services,	67 50
" " legal advice, express and stationery,	10 23
	<hr/>
Amount carried forward,	\$1,613 79

Amount brought forward,	\$1,613 79
Paid A. J. Davis, sealer, of Boston,	8 75
Horace Beaman,	11 00
James Bourns,	2 50
E. B. Shaw,	13 25
P. B. Davis,	1 60
Robert McMaster,	3 55
Patrick Rowan,	1 00
Stephen Hayes,	1 60
G. M. Fisk & Co.,	24 75
Ezra L. Chapman,	200 00
Jonathan McElwaine,	16 20
Loomis & Page,	10 50
A. V. Blanchard & Co.,	12 50
John Clough,	2 75
D. B. Bishop,	3 00
Seth B. Olds,	1 00

\$1,927 94
1,365 47

Aid to soldiers and their families,	
Paid Reuben Rogers' notes by new one,	\$1,400 00
Shem Loomis' note,	1,543 00
State tax,	7,150 00
County tax,	1,740 05
	<hr/>
	\$13,198 52

NOTES.

Paid Leander Breard,	\$163 30
Reuben Rogers,	25 00
Enos Calkins,	524 25
Shem Loomis,	736 75
Julia Scism,	1,051 33
E. B. Gates, old orders and interest,	404 91
F. M. Calkins' order of 1865,	52 65
	<hr/>
	\$2,958 19

SUMMARY.

Paid for schooling,	\$3,970 50
Paupers,	434 49
Highways,	2,244 43
Interest on notes,	1,341 35
	<hr/>
Amount carried forward,	\$7,990 77

Amount brought forward,	\$7,990 77
Paid for Bridges,	2,719 75
Contingencies,	1,927 94
Aid to soldiers and families,	1,365 47
Reuben Rogers' note by new one,	1,400 00
Shem Loomis' note, money borrowed,	1,543 00
State tax,	7,150 00
County tax,	1,740 05
New roads,	1,652 24
Reduce town debt,	2,958 19
	<hr/>
	\$30,447 41

DEBTS OF THE TOWN.

Henry E. Bolton's note, due on demand,	\$800 00	
Horace Hunn's " "	900 00	
Lucy D. Tiffany's " "	300 00	
E. B. White's " "	700 00	
Robert McMasters' " "	650 00	
Jotham Shaw's " "	246 30	
	<hr/>	\$3,596 30
Ralph Green, due in one year,	1,850 00	
J. K. Childs, adm'r, due in one year,	1,500 00	
E. B. White, " "	1,000 00	
Delphia Turner, " "	1,000 00	
	<hr/>	\$5,350 00
Reuben Rogers, due in two years,	1,400 00	
John Morgan, " "	1,000 00	
	<hr/>	\$2,400 00
Robert McMasters, due in six years,	1,500 00	
Ralph Green, " "	1,000 00	
Waterman Fuller, " "	500 00	
Susan Fenton, " "	500 00	
Susan E. Rogers, " "	500 00	
	<hr/>	\$4,000 00
Robert McMasters, due in eleven years,	1,500 00	
A. N. Dewey, " "	1,400 00	
Mary K. Cannon, " "	1,200 00	
	<hr/>	\$4,100 00
Interest on the above,		1,266 70
		<hr/>
		\$20,713 00

13,198.52
 1335.13
 12262.39

Report of the Overseers of the Poor,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1868.

Inventory, March 1, 1867,	\$1,593 23	
Interest on cost of farm,	180 00	
Superintendent's salary,	300 00	
Expenses out,	423 35	
	<hr/>	\$2,496 58

RECEIPTS.

Inventory, March 1, 1868,	\$1,658 62	
Receipts from poor farm,	284 92	
	<hr/>	\$1,943 54
Balance against the town farm,		\$553 04
Whole number of paupers during the year,		13
Average number,		7 $\frac{1}{2}$

Respectfully submitted,

ENOS CALKINS,	} Overseers of the Poor.
GEO. MOOERS,	
J. E. CRANE,	

ASSESSORS' REPORT FOR 1867.

Valuation of Palmer, May 1, as follows :

Personal estate,	\$454,196 00
Real “	829,408 00
Total valuation,	<u>\$1,283,604 00</u>

APPROPRIATIONS.

State tax,	\$7,150 00
County tax,	1,740 05
For schools,	3,500 00
Support of poor,	1,000 00
Interest on debt,	1,400 00
Contingencies,	1,600 00
Highways,	2,800 00
Bridges,	2,000 00
Reducing debt,	3,000 00
State aid,	1,000 00
New roads;	2,000 00
Overlaying on taxes,	<u>444 58</u>
Total tax,	\$27,634 63

Whole number polls, 779 ; Tax on polls, including highway poll tax, \$2.45 ; Rate, \$2.02 per \$100.

Valuation of School Dist. No. 10,	\$214,374 00
Appropriation,	\$500 00
Overlayings,	<u>5 28</u>
Total tax,	\$505 28

Number of polls, 112 ; Tax on polls, 30c. ; Rate, 22c. per \$100.

Valuation of School Dist. No. 11,	\$34,676 00
Appropriation,	\$30 00
Overlayings,	<u>32</u>
Total tax,	\$30 32

Number of polls, 19 ; Tax on polls, 10c. ; Rate, 8 $\frac{2}{10}$ per \$100.

Valuation of School Dist. No, 12,	\$294,760 00
Appropriation,	\$400 00
Overlayings,	10 07

Total tax, \$410 07

Number of polls, 166 ; Tax on polls, 25c. ; Rate, 12½c. per \$100.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

JOHN CLOUGH,	} Assessors of Palmer.
D. B. BISHOP,	
JAS. GAMWELL,	

PALMER, March 2, 1868.

REPORT OF THE LIQUOR AGENCY FOR 1867-8.

EXPENSES.

To inventory of liquors on hand, March 1, 1867,	\$284 23	
Salary of Agent,	75 00	
Freight on liquors,	20 87	
Casks for liquors,	10 23	
Liquors purchased by Agent,	974 80	
		\$1,365 13

RECEIPTS.

By inventory of liquors on hand, March 1, 1868,	\$228 39	
Cash received for liquors and casks,	1,217 48	
		\$1,445 87
Balance in favor of Agency,		\$80 74

It is due the town to state that quite a quantity of liquors have been sold to persons residing in adjoining towns.

Respectfully submitted,

O. P. ALLEN, *Town Agent.*

TOWN WARRANT.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

HAMPDEN, SS.

To Marshall Fox, Constable of the town of Palmer, Greeting :

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn all the inhabitants of the town of Palmer, qualified to vote in elections and town affairs, to meet at the Town Hall, in said Palmer, on Monday, the sixteenth day of March, inst., at 10 o'clock A. M., to act on the following articles, viz. :

ARTICLE 1. To choose a Moderator to preside in said meeting.

ART. 2. To determine the number of Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor, Assessors, School Committee, and Constables, the town will choose for the ensuing year.

ART. 3. To elect all necessary town officers for the ensuing year.

ART. 4. To act upon the Reports of the School Committee, Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor, and other town officers.

ART. 5. To raise such sums of money as are necessary to defray the current expenses of the town for the ensuing year, and appropriate the same.

ART. 6. To see if the town will vote to raise any money to reduce the debts of the town.

ART. 7. To determine the manner of repairing the highways and bridges the ensuing year.

ART. 8. To determine the manner the town will take to collect the taxes that may be assessed the ensuing year.

ART. 9. To see if the town will allow a discount upon the taxes that may be assessed, and direct the terms and conditions of the same.

ART. 10. To see if the town will accept the list of names of persons for jurors as revised by the Selectmen.

ART. 11. To see if the town will vote to provide a lock-up, and raise money to construct the same.

ART. 12. To see if the town will accept the streets as town ways, as laid out by the Selectmen ; one leading from Pleasant St. to the Eastern Hampden Agricultural Society's Park ; also one leading from said Pleasant St., commencing nearly opposite the bridge over the Boston & Albany R. R., near the carriage shops of Loomis & Page, and running to near the foot of the hill, on land of A. N. Dewey, in the Depot Village.

ART. 13. To see if the town will abolish the school districts, and make appropriations for the same.

ART. 14. To choose Committees and give them instructions.

ART. 15. To see if the town will make any by-laws and regulations to prevent the pasturing of cattle and other animals upon the streets and highways of the town.

